
OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6389

AN ACT CONCERNING PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires people or institutions that must register with the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) as controlled substance practitioners to also register for access to DCP's electronic prescription drug monitoring program. They must do so in the manner the DCP commissioner prescribes. By law, the program allows practitioners to see a patient's complete prescription record, including prescriptions by other providers (see BACKGROUND).

The bill applies to practitioners distributing; administering; dispensing; or proposing to distribute, prescribe, administer, or dispense controlled substances in Connecticut. By law, such practitioners must register with DCP as controlled substance practitioners.

For this purpose, practitioners are: physicians; dentists; veterinarians; podiatrists; optometrists; physician assistants; advanced practice registered nurses; nurse-midwives; scientific investigators; hospitals; or other people or institutions licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to, or administer a controlled substance in the course of professional practice or research in the state.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

BACKGROUND

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

DCP's electronic prescription drug monitoring program collects and maintains in a central database prescription data for Schedule II through Schedule V controlled substances dispensed by pharmacies

and outpatient pharmacies in hospitals or institutions. Information in the database is available to prescribing practitioners and pharmacists in the treatment of their patients. The program is intended to prevent the improper or illegal use of controlled substances.

Related Bills

HB 6406, reported favorably by the General Law Committee, also requires controlled substance practitioners to register for access to the prescription drug monitoring program and makes other changes to the program.

HB 5906, reported favorably by the General Law Committee, requires controlled substance practitioners, before distributing, prescribing, administering, or dispensing a controlled substance, to review the prescription drug monitoring program for the patient's previous history of controlled substance use.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/11/2013)